



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003
Committee Statement
LB 672

Hearing Date: March 4, 2003

Committee On: Education

Introducer(s): (Erdman, Baker, Burling, Jones, Kremer, Smith)

Title: Require filtering technology on school computers having Internet access

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

| | | |
|---|---------------------|---|
| 7 | Yes | Senators Schrock, Maxwell, Stuhr, Raikes, Bourne, Byars, McDonald |
| 0 | No | |
| 0 | Present, not voting | |
| 1 | Absent | Senator Brashear |

Proponents:

Senator Phil Erdman
David Bydalek
John Harris

Representing:

Introducer
Family First
self

Opponents:

Robert Haller

Representing:

Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska

Neutral:

John Bonaiuto

Representing:

Nebraska State School Boards Association

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 672 would state that the Legislature recognizes that school libraries, computer labs, and media centers serve unique educational purposes and that public libraries are designed for public inquiry.

School districts would be required to either:

1. Restrict student access to child pornography and material that is reasonably believed to be obscene or harmful to minors on any computer with Internet access using software filtering technology or other effective methods; or
 2. Develop a policy to limit access to the material.
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If the expense for software filtering technology would be more than incidental, the district would not be required to purchase the technology.

If a district receives technology revenue, the district would be required to prohibit adult access on district computers to child pornography and material which is reasonably believed to be obscene under federal or state law using software filtering technology or other effective methods.

School districts and their agents would be immune from liability for failure to comply if there was a good faith effort to comply.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson